

On page 6, line 8, before "In the following,.." insert the heading  
--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

On page 6, line 17, delete "to" and insert --from--.

On page 6, line 16, before "Fig. 1 illustrates.." insert the heading  
-DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 9, line 25, after "restrictor" insert --due to the presence of  
constrictor element 23--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-12 as follows:

1        1. (Amended) A device for use as a readily portable device for intermittent  
2        compression of human extremities for assisting the return of body fluid in the direction  
3        of the heart, said device comprising a cuff to be applied to an extremity and a miniature  
4        pressure generator for intermittent pressurization of the cuff, wherein said cuff has, in  
5        the direction of return, a width of at most 25 cm and is configured as a single-chamber  
6        system. [characterized by the combination of the following features;

7        a)        the device comprises a cuff to be applied to an extremity and  
8        b)        a miniature pressure generator for intermittent pressurization of the cuff,  
9        c)        said cuff (2) comprising, in the direction of return, a width (B) of only 25 cm at  
10       the most and  
11       d)        being configured as a single-chamber system.]

1        2. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1, [characterized in that]  
2        wherein said cuff [(2)] corresponds to a cuff as used for blood pressure measurements.

1        3. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2        characterized in that] claim 1, wherein said pressure generator [(1)] is a roller pump.

1       4. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2 characterized by] claim 1 further comprising a pressure control means, which connects  
3 a cuff chamber defined by said cuff to the atmosphere when the pressure therein  
4 exceeds a predefined overpressure.

1       5. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 4, [characterized in that]  
2 wherein said pressure control means comprises an outlet valve [(21, 22)] forming an  
3 overpressure outlet for said cuff [(2)], said overpressure outlet being [permanently]  
4 open, except when said pressure generator [(1)] pressurizes said cuff [(2)].

1       6. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2 characterized in that] claim 4, wherein said pressure control means comprises a  
3 restrictor [(6b)] in a conduit [(6)] between said pressure generator [(1)] and said cuff  
4 [(2)], and an outlet valve [(21, 22)] with a stopper [(22)], which, in a first position,  
5 releases an outlet [(21)] to the atmosphere, and, in a second position, blocks said  
6 outlet, said stopper [(22)] assuming these positions as a function of the difference in  
7 pressure between an inlet and an outlet of said restrictor [(6b)].

1       7. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2 characterized in that] claim 1 further comprising a controller [(5)] which switches said  
3 pressure generator [(1)] ON/OFF, thereby pressurizing said cuff [(2)] with a defined or  
4 definable pressure amplitude and a defined or definable repetition frequency.

1       8. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 7, [characterized in that]  
2 wherein said controller [(5)] is designed to vary said pressure amplitude and/or  
3 repetition frequency.

1       9. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2 characterized in that] in claim 1, wherein a [the] measured overpressure of said cuff,  
3 compared to atmospheric pressure, ranges between 20 mm Hg and 100 mm Hg.

1        10. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2 characterized in that] claim 1, wherein said cuff [(2)] is pressurized 1 to 10 times per  
3 min.

*Sub  
B*

1        11. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2 characterized in that] claim 1, wherein, said cuff [(2)] is pressurized 1 to 15 times per 5  
3 min.

1        12. (Amended) The device as set forth in [any of the preceding claims,  
2 characterized in that] claim 1 further comprising means for uncoupling said pressure  
3 generator [(1) can be uncoupled] from said cuff [(2)], preferably by means of a quick-  
4 release fastener].

*A*  
Please add the following claims:

2        13. (Newly Added) Use of a device comprising a cuff to be applied to an  
3 extremity, and a miniature pressure generator for intermittent pressurization of said  
4 cuff, said cuff comprising, in the direction of return of body fluid in the direction of  
5 the heart, a width (B) of maximally 25cm, and being configured as a single-chamber  
6 system, as a readily transportable device for intermittent compression of human  
7 extremities for assisting the return.

*A* *AV*

1        14. (Newly Added) A method for stimulating the flow of body fluid  
2 comprising the steps of:

3 applying a cuff to an extremity, wherein said cuff has a width of at most 25 cm and is  
4 configured as a single-chamber system; and  
5 intermittently pressurizing said cuff.

1        15. (Newly Added) The method as set forth in claim 14, wherein the step of  
2 intermittently pressurizing said cuff comprises a controller actuating a pressure

3 generator to pressurize said cuff with a defined or definable pressure amplitude and a  
4 defined or definable repetition frequency.

1           16. (Newly Added) The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said  
2 controller varies said pressure amplitude and/or repetition frequency.

1           17. (Newly Added) The method as set forth in claim 14, wherein the step of  
2 intermittently pressurizing said cuff comprises pressurizing said cuff 1 to 10 times per  
3 min.

1           18. (Newly Added) The device as set forth in claim 14, wherein the step of  
2 intermittently pressurizing said cuff comprises pressurizing said cuff 1 to 15 times per  
3 5 min.

Respectfully Submitted,



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